

**Dedication of Funds to the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)
Community Services and Supports Prudent Reserve**

The San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health received notice #08-01 from the Department of Mental Health on January 28, 2008 informing the county that it is to submit a request to dedicate Community Services and Supports (CSS) funding to the local prudent reserve pursuant to the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 5847(a)(7).

Establishment of the Prudent Reserve will enable counties to continue providing services to children, transitional age youth, adults and older adults during those years in which revenues for the MHSA fund are insufficient. Department of Mental Health guidelines state that the Prudent Reserve should be funded at 50% of the most recent annual approved CSS funding level by July 1, 2010, unless the county would have to reduce MHSA services below the level funded in the fiscal year 07/08.

It is anticipated that the total amount of Prudent Reserve for the County of San Bernardino will be \$11,971,241 as of 3/31/08.

Counties will be able to access funds upon approval by DMH based on a determination that MHSA revenues are below recent averages and submission of a Three-Year Plan Update.

The attached form titled "Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Request to Dedicate Funds to the Local Prudent Reserve" functions both as a Plan update to the County's existing Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan and a request for DMH to modify the County's existing MHSA Agreement.

The 30-day Public Comment Period for the Request to Dedicate Funds to the Prudent Reserve will commence on April 10, 2008, and end on May 9, 2008 per Title 9 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 3300 regarding the Community Planning Process and Section 3315(b) regarding the local review process.

Comments may be sent to the MHSA Comment/Question Line: 1-800-722-9866
Or emailed to mhsa@dbh.sbcounty.gov .